



Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2001

File No. 648

Senate Bill No. 1014

Senate, May 8, 2001

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. CRISCO of the 17th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING POWERS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) There is established a separate, nonlapsing
2 account, within the General Fund, known as the maintenance, repair
3 and improvement account. All moneys collected from any rent paid by
4 any person occupying or otherwise using any property owned by the
5 Department of Agriculture, including houses or other buildings, shall
6 be deposited into the account unless the Commissioner of Agriculture
7 enters into a written agreement, signs an instrument or issues a license
8 which specifically states otherwise. Said account may also receive
9 moneys from private or public sources, including the federal
10 government or a municipal government.

11 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any
12 moneys received by the Department of Agriculture pursuant to

13 subsection (a) of this section shall be deposited in the General Fund
14 and credited to the maintenance, repair and improvement account. The
15 account shall be available to the Commissioner of Agriculture for
16 maintaining, making improvements to, erecting structures on or
17 repairing any property owned by the department, including houses
18 and other buildings. Nothing in this section shall prevent the
19 commissioner from obtaining or using funds from sources other than
20 the account for maintaining, making improvements to, erecting
21 structures on or repairing any property owned by the department,
22 including houses and other buildings.

23 (c) The commissioner shall annually report to the joint standing
24 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
25 relating to appropriations concerning the activities and status of the
26 maintenance, repair and improvement account.

27 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

ENV *Joint Favorable C/R*

APP

APP *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: See Explanation Below

Affected Agencies: Department of Agriculture

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation**State Impact:**

Establishing a restricted nonlapsing account within the General Fund for any rent paid by a person occupying or otherwise using property owned by the Department of Agriculture (DOA) is anticipated to divert revenue from one state account to another. The new account can be used by DOA for maintenance, improvements, repair, etc. for the property. Funds from one property, the Savin Farm, are currently affected by this legislation. Fifty acres of cropland are rented at \$100 an acre. There is no funding currently available to repair and maintain the property, which consists of 575 acres including buildings. Rental funds (\$30,000) from the last six years are now deposited in an account that can be used for farmland preservation or to pay down debt.

OLR BILL ANALYSIS

SB 1014

AN ACT CONCERNING POWERS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT.**SUMMARY:**

This bill creates a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund to maintain, improve, build on, or repair property, including houses and other buildings, owned by the Department of Agriculture. People occupying or using department property must pay rent into the "maintenance, repair and improvement account," unless the commissioner specifically signs a written agreement, issues a license, or signs an instrument stating otherwise. The bill authorizes the commissioner to deposit money into the account from other private or public sources, including the federal and municipal governments, and use other funding sources to pay for maintenance or repair of, or construction on, department property. The commissioner must report annually to the Appropriations Committee on account activities and status.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2001

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference
Yea 27 Nay 0

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 44 Nay 1

